

attempting to acquire one or more targeted domain names in a drop pool of expired domain names;
 providing, for the plurality of DNS registrars, a plurality of attempt sets containing the one or more targeted domain names, wherein the plurality of attempt sets each contains at least one targeted domain name that a respective DNS registrar of the plurality of DNS registrars attempted to acquire via at least one of the plurality of name acquisition requests;
 determining a degree of similarity between two or more attempt sets of the plurality of attempt sets corresponding to a pair of DNS registrars of the plurality of DNS registrars;
 estimating a likelihood of collusion between the pair of DNS registrars based on the degree of similarity; and
 performing mitigation actions in response to the likelihood of collusion.

14. The method of claim **13**, wherein providing the plurality of attempt sets further comprises:
 analyzing the plurality of attempt sets for highly targeted domain names, wherein the highly targeted domain names are targeted by at least a predetermined number of the plurality of DNS registrars; and
 filtering the two or more attempt sets to exclude the highly targeted domain names to provide two or more filtered attempt sets.

15. The method of claim **13**, wherein determining the degree of similarity further comprises:
 determining an overlap between two or more attempt sets of the plurality of attempt sets corresponding to the pair of DNS registrars.

16. The method of claim **13**, wherein determining the degree of similarity further comprises:
 determining an overlap between two or more attempt sets of the plurality of attempt sets corresponding to the pair of DNS registrars and a timeslot.

17. The method of claim **13**, wherein determining the degree of similarity further comprises:

performing a longitudinal analysis of two or more attempt sets of the plurality of attempt sets corresponding to the pair of DNS registrars and a plurality of timeslots longitudinal across a period of time.

18. The method of claim **13**, further comprising:
 filtering the one or more targeted domain names to include only domain names that the plurality of DNS registrars attempted to acquire during one or more timeslots.

19. The method of claim **13**, further comprising:
 filtering the one or more targeted domain names to include only domain names that are in at least one top-level domain.

20. A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium including instructions that, when executed by at least one processor at a domain name system (DNS) registry, causes the at least one processor to execute a method for detecting DNS registrar collusion, the method comprising:

obtaining information related to a plurality of name acquisition requests, wherein a plurality of DNS registrars submit the plurality of name acquisition requests attempting to acquire one or more targeted domain names in a drop pool of expired domain names;

providing, for the plurality of DNS registrars, a plurality of attempt sets containing the one or more targeted domain names, wherein the plurality of attempt sets each contains at least one targeted domain name that a respective DNS registrar of the plurality of DNS registrars attempted to acquire via at least one of the plurality of name acquisition requests;

determining a degree of similarity between two or more attempt sets of the plurality of attempt sets corresponding to a pair of DNS registrars of the plurality of DNS registrars;

estimating a likelihood of collusion between the pair of DNS registrars based on the degree of similarity; and
 performing mitigation actions in response to the likelihood of collusion.

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